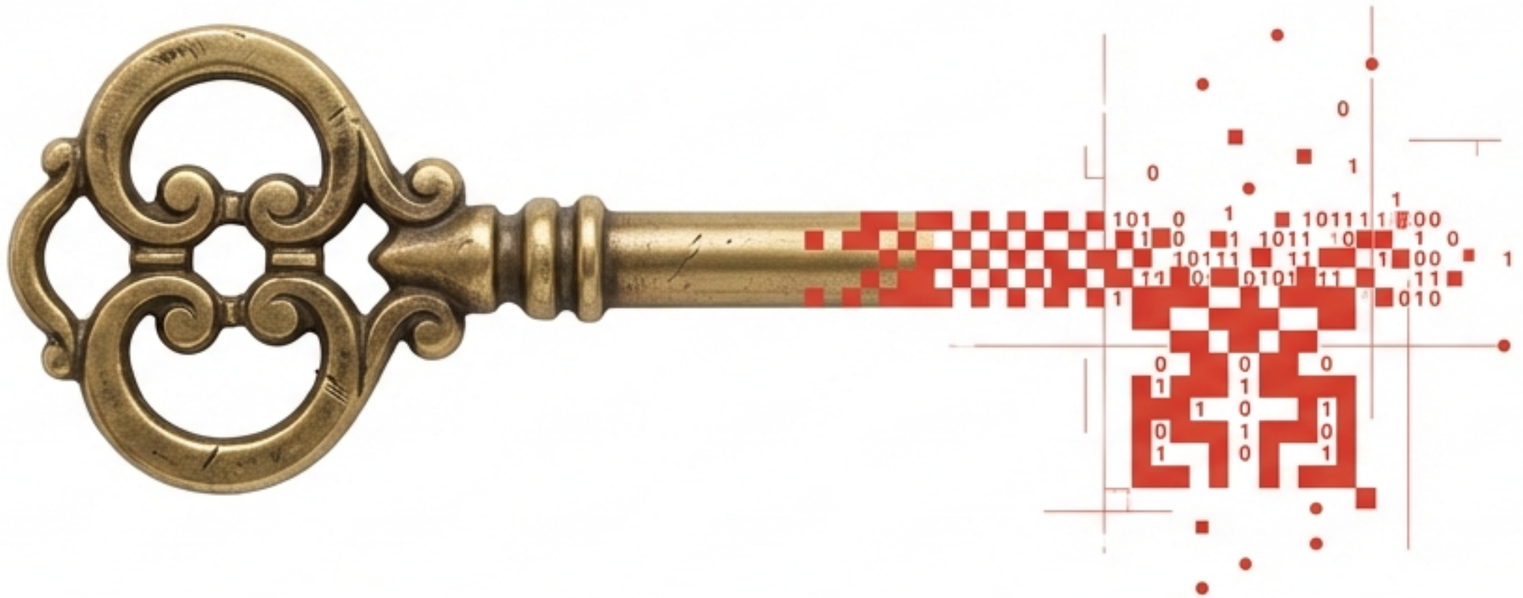
The Universal Key



Unlocking the World's Digital Treasures

The International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)

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The Treasury and The Trap

The Treasures

The Silos

The Problem: The world's greatest collections are locked in isolated digital systems with custom viewers. Data is stuck inside its own little world.

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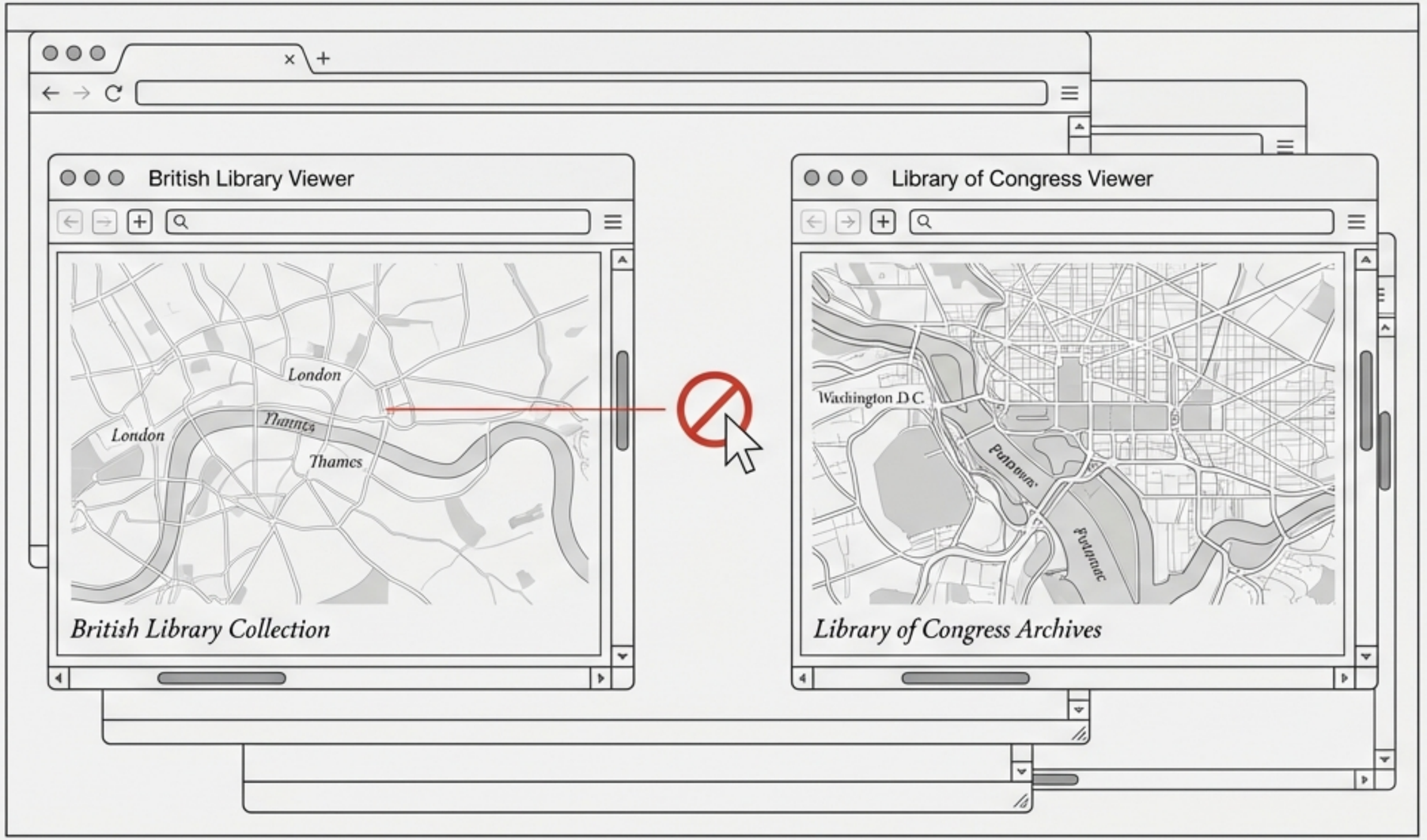
The Friction of Fragmentation



The Impossible Task: Comparing items side-by-side across institutions.

The Reality: Incompatible viewers. Slow, clunky zooming. Custom workarounds.

Result: Scholarship is limited by the technology.

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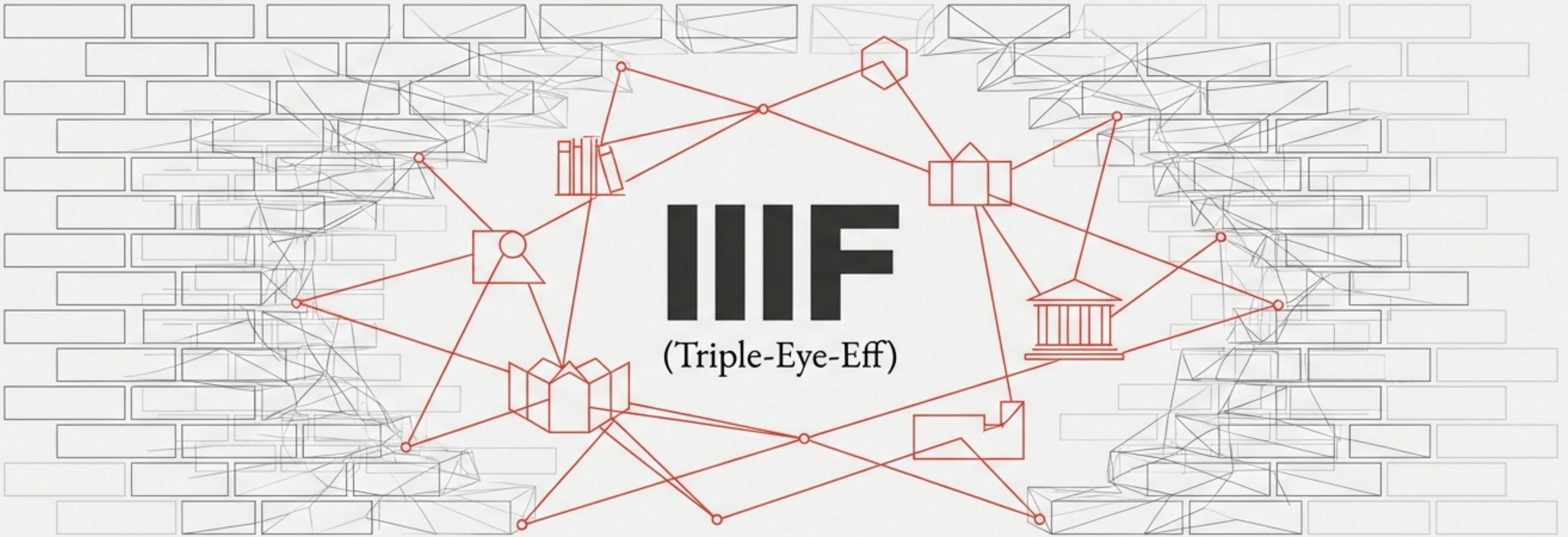
The Solution: A Universal Language



(Triple-Eye-Eff)

International Image Interoperability Framework

A set of open, shared rules that lets any image from any institution work in any compatible viewer.

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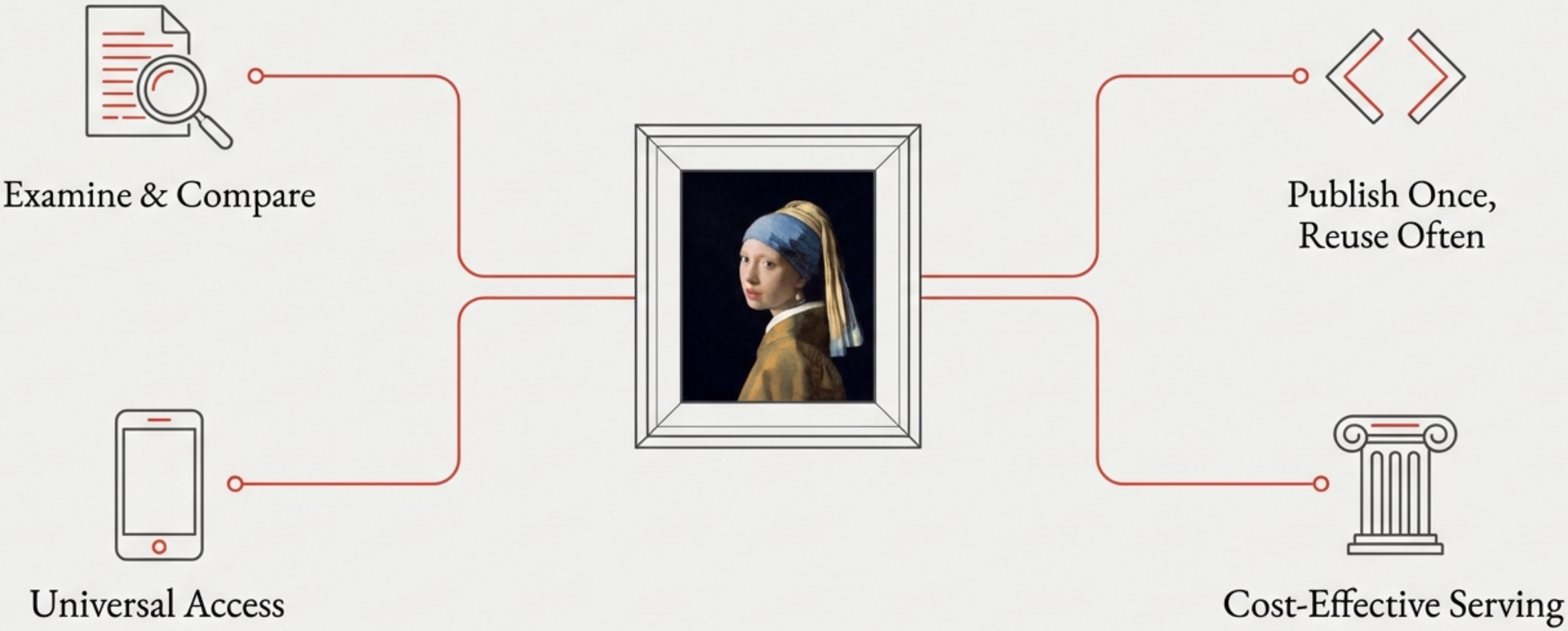
Break Down Silos with Open APIs



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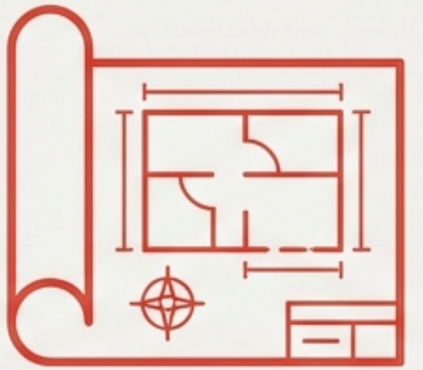
The Mechanics of Magic

1. The Image API

The Recipe

A precise set of instructions for retrieving pixels.



2. The Presentation API

The Blueprint

The context, structure, and story of the object.

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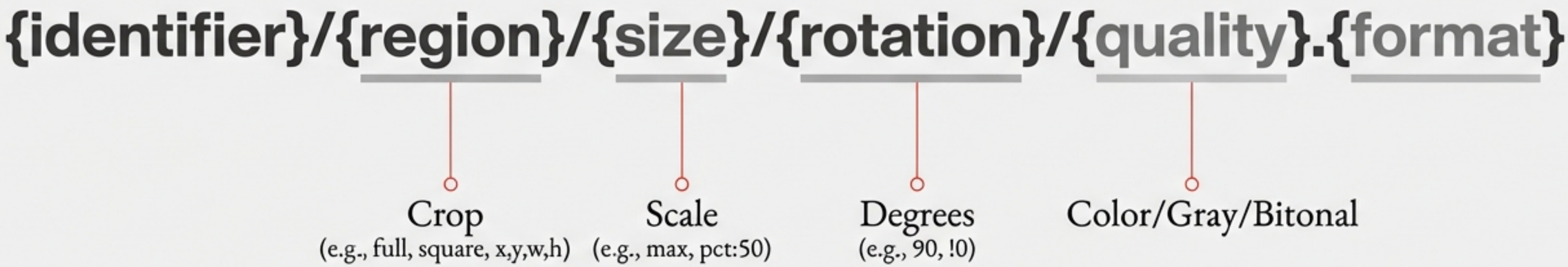
Image API 3.0: The Recipe



Precise control over pixels via a simple web link.

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Dynamic Manipulation in Action

/full/max/0/default.jpg

/125,15,200,200/max/0/default.jpg

/.../90/default.jpg

No Photoshop. No special software. Just changing the link.

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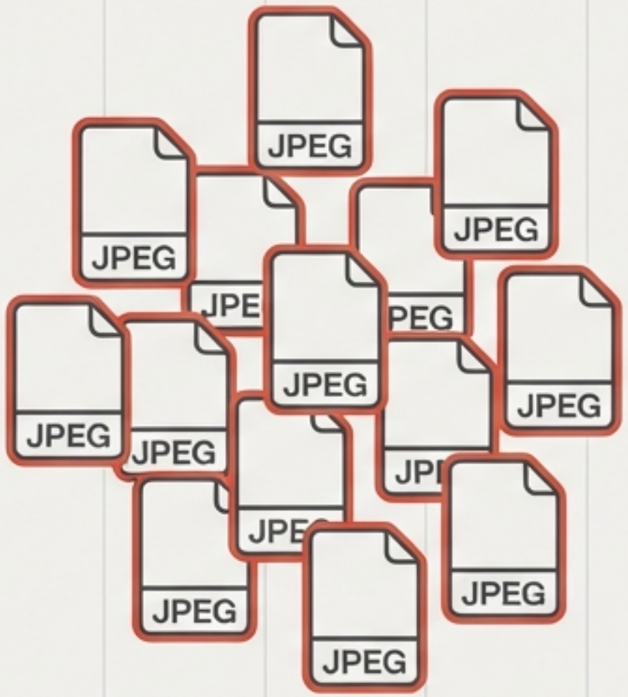
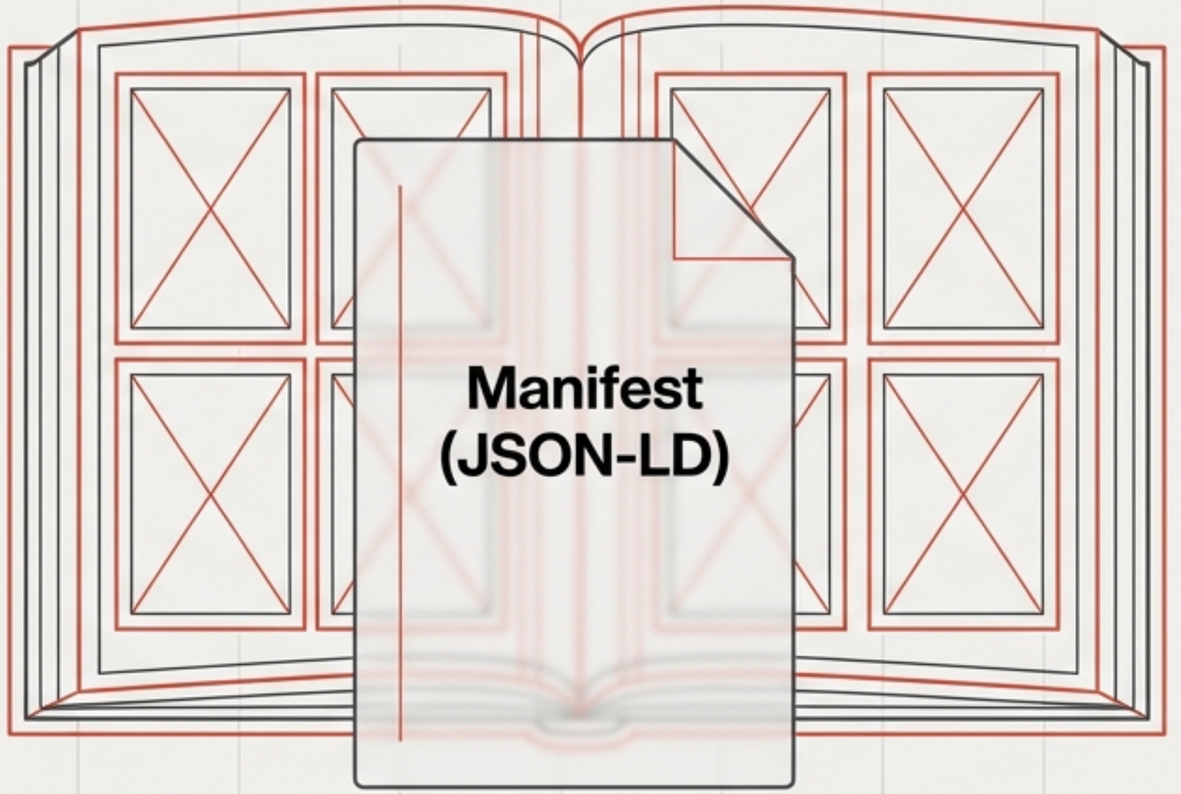
Presentation API 3.0: The Blueprint



Raw Files



The Curator's Guide.

Defines Page Order.

Holds Metadata & Rights.

Structure, not just pixels.

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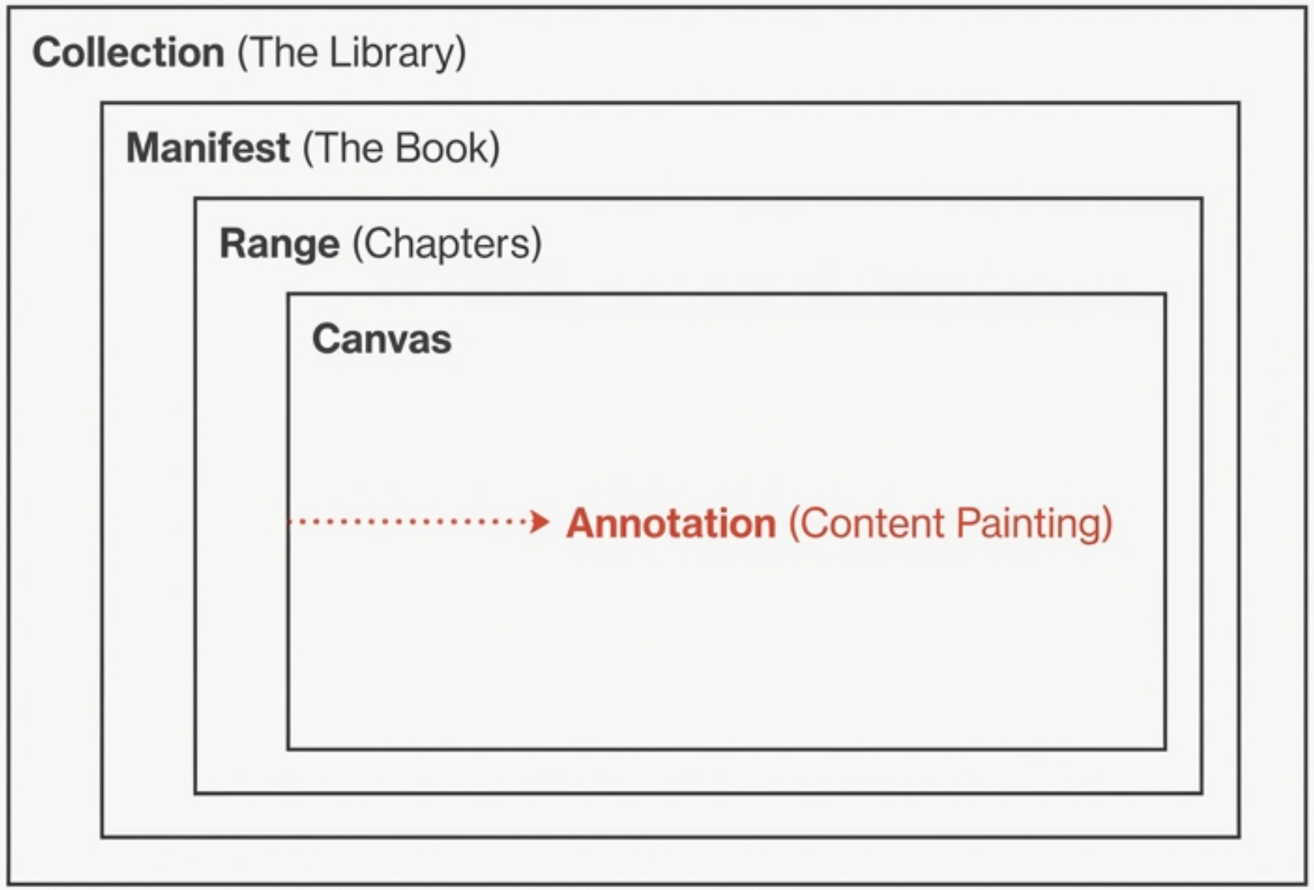
Structuring the Story



A Canvas is an abstract space where content—images, text, or audio—is painted via Annotations.

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Masterpieces in Focus: The Rijksmuseum

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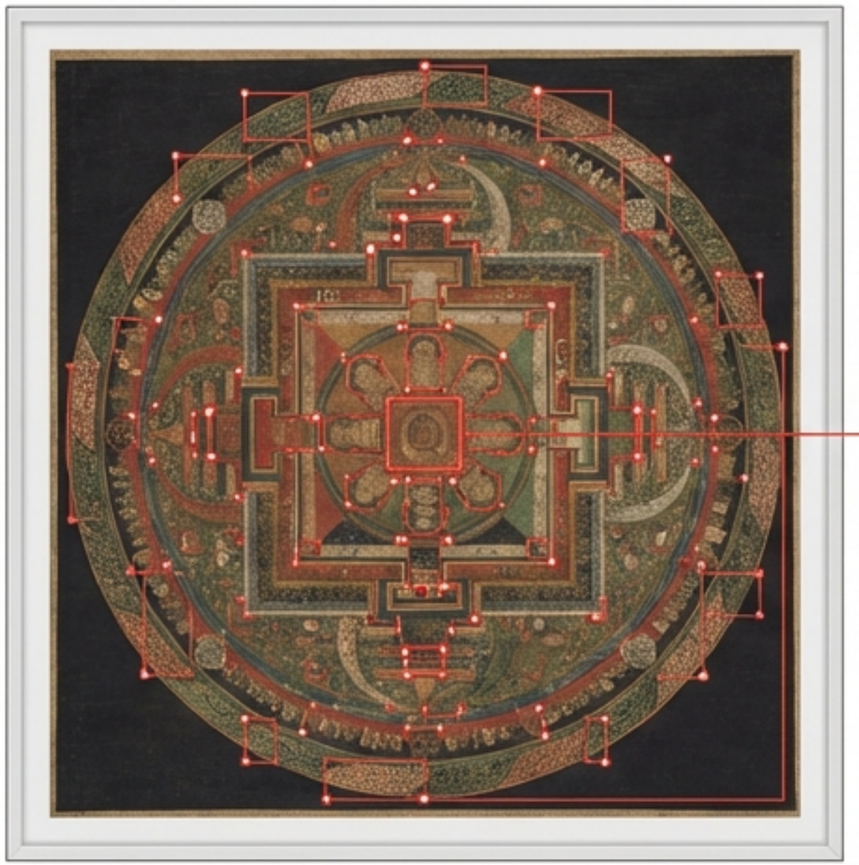
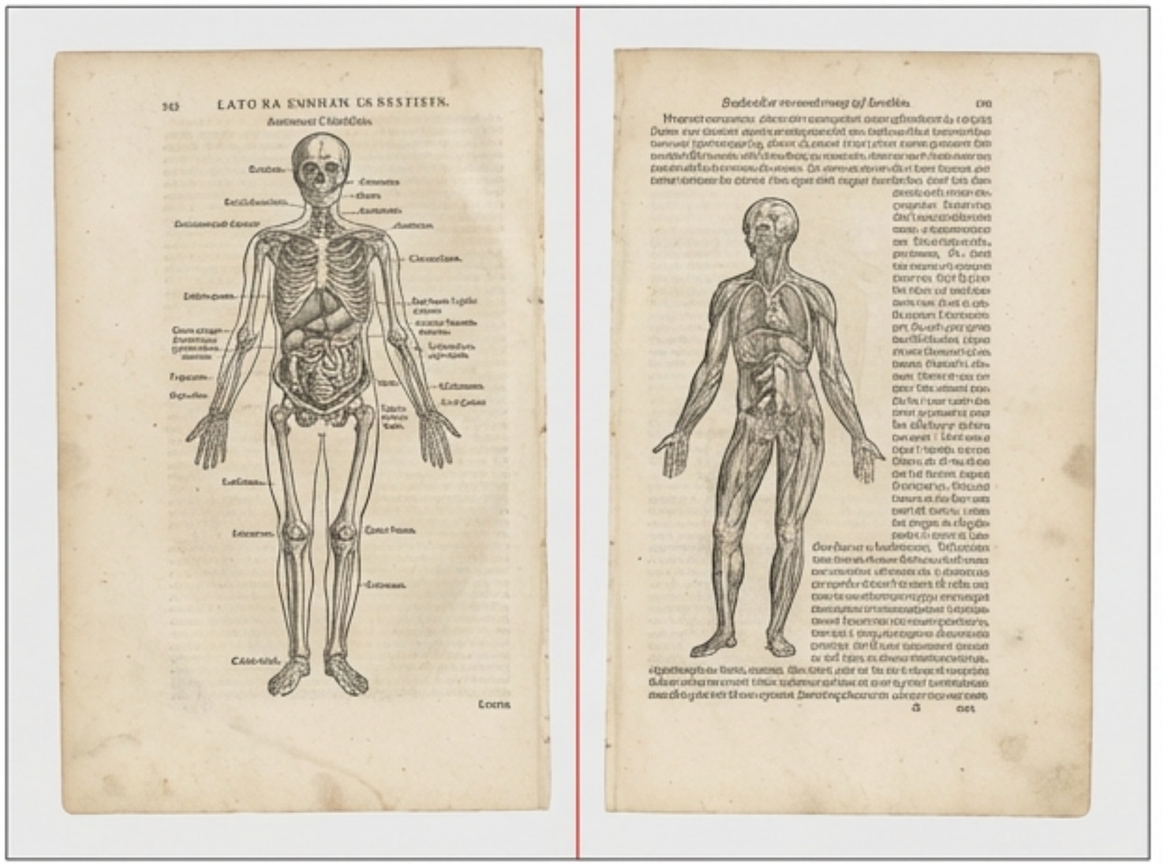
Deep Scholarship & Analysis

SAT Daizokyo



400+ Linked Annotations

Wellcome Collection



Beyond viewing: Analyzing, transcribing, and comparing across databases.

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Powered by a Global Community Community

Safe, funded, and standard-compliant. A consortium of 69+ global leaders.

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The IIIF Cookbook: Recipes for Success

```
// Recipe: Simplest Manifest
// Ingredients: 1 Image, Metadata

// Step 1: Copy Pattern
// Step 2: Paste URL
```

Don't start from scratch. Use community-verified patterns for everything from "Basic Image" to "Deep Viewing".

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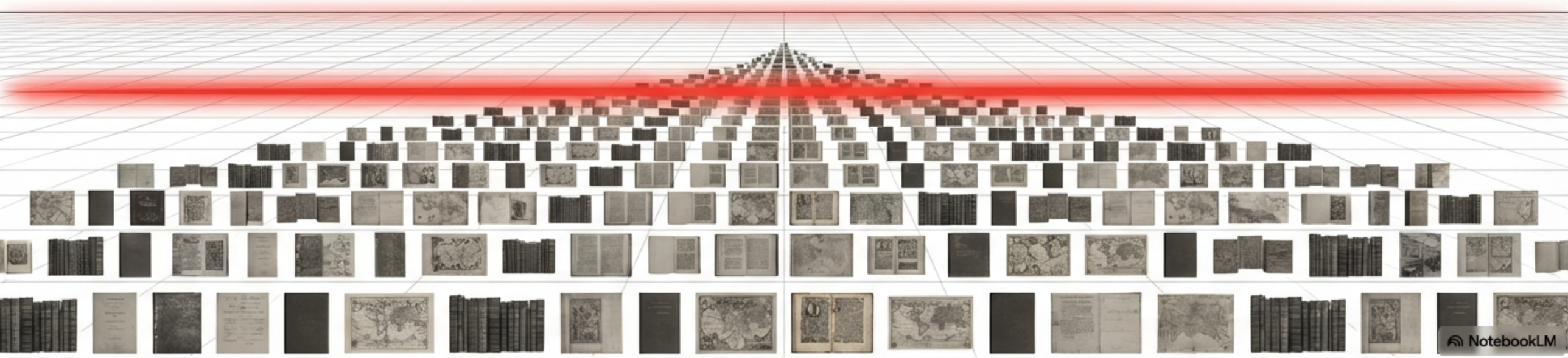
The Future is Open

Tearing down the silo walls.

Our shared history, unlocked.

The only question left: What will we discover next?



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